

Key Text: Acts 1:8

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The Holy Spirit is mentioned in John 14:16-17 and is referred to as our “**Helper**”. This is a great introduction to the Holy Spirit, especially in the context of a relationship. But the Holy Spirit is far more than just a helper. The Holy Spirit is God. The Holy Spirit is the third person of the eternal “GODHEAD”. He is co-equal, co-eternal, and co-exists with the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit was active in creation. (*Genesis 1:1-3*). The Holy Spirit was also active in the creation of the Bible. (*2 Peter 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:16*) The Holy Spirit is called God, He has All-power, All-knowledge, and is All-present. (*Acts 5:3,4; Luke 1:35; John 14:26;16:12,13; Psalm 139:7-10*) The Holy Spirit is in complete unity with Jesus and God the Father. (*John 14:16; 15:26; 16:7-13*) It is also very important to know that the Holy Spirit is revealed as a PERSON and not a FORCE or POWER. He is attributed with a Mind, a Will, and Emotions. (*Romans 8:26,27; 15:30; 1 Corinthians 12:11; Colossians 1:8*) This means that The Holy Spirit can be insulted, or lied to and resisted. We can even break His heart in a way similar to how one friend might break the heart of another. If we are not in a good relationship with the Holy Spirit it will feel as if we are estranged from a close friend or member of our family. The problem with being separated from the Holy Spirit is that He is also our source of LIFE. Apart from Him, we can’t live spiritually and we will begin to suffer physically and mentally. But with the Help of the Holy Spirit we will be able to do all things. The Holy Spirit will teach us, and direct our life, and give to us all that we need for life and godliness. Apart from the Holy Spirit, we will be able to do NOTHING. John 15:5.

Symbols of the Holy Spirit:



A Dove - Matt. 3:16, John 1:33.



FIRE - Isaiah 4:4, Matt. 3:11



Wind - John 3:8, Acts 2:2-3



WATER - John 7:38-39, 1 Cor. 10:4



OIL - Matt. 25:3; Psalms 89:20; 1 John 2:27

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST AND IN THE CHURCH

Jesus’ Life In The Spirit Was Marked By:

- Born of the Spirit - Luke 1:35
- Filled with the Spirit - John 3:34
- Led by the Holy Spirit - Matthew 4:1
- Anointed to preach and perform miracles by the power of the Holy Spirit - Luke 4:18
- Cast out devils by the Holy Spirit - Matthew 12:28
- Offered His blood & body as a sacrifice for sin by the Holy Spirit - Hebrews 9:14
- Resurrected from the dead by the Holy Spirit - Romans 8:11
- Possessed authority to command by the Holy Spirit - Acts 1:2

Examples of the Holy Spirit in the Church and The individual Believer:

- Born & in-dwelt by the Spirit- John 3:5,6; 1 Cor. 3:16; 6:17; 1 John 2:27
- Speaks to Believers - Acts 8:29; 1 Tim.4:1
- Leads, teaches and opens the understanding of the believer - 1 Cor. 2:12; John 16:13; Romans 8:14
- Strengthens the inner man and empowers the believer to witness - Ephesians 3:16; Acts 1:8; Titus 3:5
- Will bring resurrection life to the physical body - Romans 8:11; 1 Corinthians 15:47-51; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18
- Formed the Church and gives it authority and direction - Ephesians 2:20-22; 1 Corinthians 12:4-13.

2 Chronicles 16:9 reveals how the Holy Spirit is constantly looking throughout the world to find people who are “Fully” committed to Him. He is looking for these people who TRUST or rely on His power so that He can GIVE US MORE POWER!!!!!! Sadly, even Christians choose to rely on their own strength and their own wisdom for help in times of need. When we do this we are missing out on the MIRACLE WORKING POWER OF GOD. If you are feeling “Powerless” in some way...WHY? How can you trust in the power of the Holy Spirit more? Can you see the many ways that we do not trust or rely on God? There is another dynamic to this point, that is GROWTH. We will grow in our ability to trust through the learning process. The Holy Spirit is the teacher and we must submit to His instruction. Learn the Bible and “DO” what the Bible teaches. The Holy Spirit has a goal in our education, and it is for you to be like Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit and Power. Follow the example of Jesus. Jesus did nothing without trusting fully on the Holy Spirit. As you grow in obedient trust...you will see great “MARVELS”! (*John 14:12,13*)

(Paul) asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?”

WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE ARE MISSING IF WE HAVE NEVER BEEN TAUGHT

...They answered him, “**No, we’ve never even heard of the Holy Spirit.**” Acts 19:2

ANOTHER BAPTISM EXPLORED

TO BE BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT:

To “Baptize” someone or something means to “DIP” or “IMMERSE”. The Bible teaches three major baptisms. With each of these baptisms, a person must choose to surrender their will to the one doing the baptizing. The one doing the baptizing will either be the Holy Spirit, A minister of the Gospel, or Jesus Christ. Through our faith, we can apprehend what these baptisms’ mean.

Baptized into The Body of Christ: Through the power of the Holy Spirit believers are “Immersed” in a new family. You are born again into the spiritual “Family of God” the moment you repent of sin and confess Jesus as your Lord. (*John 3:1 Corinthians 12:13; Romans 12:4-5*)

Baptized in Water: Water baptism is how a person identifies with Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection. A minister dips the person under water and raises them up again to walk in a new life. Repentance and faith always precede water baptism. (*Acts 8:12-15; 19:4-5; Mark 16:16; Romans 6:4-5*)

Baptized in The Holy Spirit: Jesus freely gives The Holy Spirit to all who ask and receive Him. (*Matthew 3:11; John 1:33*) *The prerequisite is a vital relationship with God through Jesus Christ.* The initial evidence of this baptism is speaking in other tongues. It is also evidenced by power, miracles and various spiritual gifts or fruit. (*Acts. 8:5-24; 9:17-19;10:44-48. Galatians 5:22,23*)

HOW DO YOU RECEIVE HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM?

- 1. Heart Preparation** - Repentance and purification. (*Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:9; 2 Corinthians 7:1; 2 Timothy 2:21*) This is so important because it is the time when motives and heart conditions are dealt with. **see Acts 8:17-24**
- 2. Have faith in the Promise** - Know that Jesus is eager to give the Holy Spirit freely to all that ask. (*Luke 11:11-13; Mark 16:17; John 7:38,39*)
- 3. Desire to be baptized in the Holy Spirit** - Give yourself permission to expect more and grow in your desire for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. (*Matthew 5:6; James 4:8; 1 Corinthians 12:31*)
- 4. Ask to receive and Expect** - Go to God in prayer asking to receive. This is also the point where waiting and acting will overlap. We grow in expectation while we wait but then as the Holy Spirit leads we must respond with open arms and an open mouth...(*Acts 8:14-17; Luke 24:49...WAIT FOR IT.*)
- 5. Act in Faith** - Galatians 3:2,14. Like it is suggested in 1 Corinthians 14:15, speaking in other tongues involves your will. You must choose to participate with the Spirit. The Holy Spirit will not “POSES” you so that you have no control over your own tongue. Begin speaking with a stammering tongue as the Holy Spirit moves. You will be speaking to God not to man and you will be edifying your soul and giving praise to God. (*1 Corinthians 14:2; Jude 20; Acts 10:46*)